Bump Bonding and Thinning of Hybrid Pixel Detectors

- Bump bonding with fine pitch and matching small bumps is an advanced technology, available to customers from only a rather small number of specialized vendors worldwide. The offered processes are distinguished by many parameters the most important ones are the bond medium used (solder or indium), and the maximum wafer size and minimum wafer thickness that can be handled.
- At CERN, bump bonding for the ALICE and LHCb experiments (including an application in NA60) is performed at VTT, Finland, which uses solder bumps of 20 μ m diameter at 50 μ m pitch. During the presently ongoing R&D phase, high-quality single-chip detector assemblies and multi-chip ladder assemblies were obtained from the initial processing of 1/4 wafers, and recently also some from a first processing of full-size wafers of 8" diameter.
- The currently available assemblies are not thinned yet. The prospects are to arrive at the bump bonding of readout chips, thinned to around 150 μ m, to detectors of 200 μ m thickness.
- Parallel to the detector thinning, low-mass chip busses and mechanical supports are required to make visible in the material budget the material saved in the detector thinning.
- PHENIX is in the process of negotiating access to this pixel detector technology at CERN via an effort of RIKEN.